

**From:** Sally Goldenberg [<mailto:sally.goldenberg@gmail.com>]  
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**To:** Mayor's Press Office  
**Subject:** pool part 2

Judy Willig, who works at the center and introduced the mayor, asked him what people can do to help.

The mayor replied that anyone who believes in these changes (Mandatory Inclusionary Housing and Zoning for Quality and Affordability) should let their City Council member know they support them.

"Tell your family. Tell your friends. People need to speak up for affordable housing for seniors. Because this vote will happen in this month, the month of March. It will happen and it will decide so much of the future."

Said the Bishop Boardman example Lander cited. is "so powerful."

"There's a parking lot sitting there for now reason. There's a law, a backwards law, that says they have to have it there" re: parking lot.

Plugged AARP again and said, "This is a once in a lifetime chance to get it right, to actually build the housing we need."

Judy offered to help seniors figure out who their Council members are so they can call them.

A woman in audience named Jane -- I didn't catch her last name -- didn't really have a question but thanked him for help he gave her with a Coney Island property when he was a councilman. He seemed to remember her and asked how she's been. She referenced having worked for him at some point and wished him well. He thanked her. Some applause followed their exchange.

Another woman asked about affordable apartments for seniors in Atlantic Yards.

Mayor replied that he supported Atlantic Yards because it had 3K units of affordable housing and said he is "adamant" it still must be fulfilled. "To the best of my knowledge I don't remember if there was a specific senior component within it." Then he reminded folks that all affordable housing is done by a lottery and 50% are for ppl in the local community district and 50% for people who live elsewhere.

An additional amount is set aside for people who have disabilities and vision problems.

"We have senior housing ... we have developments we're creating that are specifically for seniors" but they can apply to other affordable housing apts. without restrictions.

Another woman said she has been waiting for a deed for 200 years on 13th Street.

De Blasio said "wow" and, when someone sitting next to the woman asked if he can help them in surrogate court, he said his staff would follow up. He specifically assigned the task to a staffer in attendance who has worked in Park Slope in the past.

Another woman, named Helen Cu, asked about landlord harassment of tenants.

"My landlord wanted to seal my backyard door so I would to have the use of the backyard. That was a form of harassing me so I could move, only because I was (in) a rent-controlled apartment. What can we do about these kinds of landlords who are really all over the city trying to push us away?"

De Blasio asked her what her resolution was.

She said her local City Councilman wrote a letter to the landlord. She then was approved for SCRIE and the landlord stopped bothering her. "I'm OK now," she said. She's on Prospect Avenue.

De Blasio replied, "I've always said most landlords follow the law. Most landlords do their business the right way. But there's a group of landlords who are absolutely unscrupulous, who break the law, who harass tenants, who overcharge them, don't provide heat and hot water, who try to make life miserable for tenants and try to evict them in many cases illegally."

With them, the city is providing free legal support.

"If you have a landlord who's harassing you, trying to evict you illegally, you can now call 311 and we will provide a lawyer to defend you in court."

He said there has been an 18% reduction in evictions, in large part because of that policy.

He also touted his partnership with Schneiderman to bring criminal charges against landlords who harass tenants.

The next questioner asked about a rent-controlled apartment on fifth floor that she doesn't think is safe.

I couldn't entirely hear her question or parse her exact concern but it had to do with the safety of her apartment.

De Blasio asked for the people present from his tenant support unit to raise their hands. They did and he introduced them and reiterated yesterday's eviction announcement.

More applause.

A man named David was volunteered to help her, follow up with her and coordinate with Fire Department.

Jane, the aforementioned questioner who thanked de Blasio for some work he did as a Councilman, then asked Lander about a street light and he acknowledged it. She had another concern about a shelter. I wasn't totally clear on what it was. She reminded Lander she has asked him these questions before.

"I remember these questions," de Blasio joked.

Lander talked about local stuff that's been done in that neighborhood.

Another question for Lander about the B71. Not transcribing that because it had nothing to do with senior affordable housing but have the details if anyone wants to contact me later about it.

Then a question about an elevator at a subway station and Lander said he'd push MTA. Also not transcribing that for same reason as I mentioned above.

Then de Blasio and Lander walked around the room, shaking hands and taking pictures with those in attendance.

One woman told him he looks good, considering all he has to deal with -- I don't have exact quote but that was the gist.

He attributed it to working out at the Y in Park Slope.

Another man grumbled to Lander that there is no affordable supermarket in Park Slope. Lander referenced the recent controversy over the Key Food and said he has de Blasio's support on that issue. De Blasio seemed concerned by the supermarket issue.

He took several selfies.

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